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09/903,506	07/13/2001	Mark P. Vasudevan	P0272844	1766

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EXAMINER
FLEURANTIN, JEAN B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2172	8

DATE MAILED: 07/30/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/903,506	VASUDEVAN, MARK P.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jean B Fleurantin	2172	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-81* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-81* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-81 are presented for examination.

Drawings

2. The Examiner accepts the Drawings..

Claim Objections

3. Claims 2-27, 29-54 and 56-81 objected to because of the following informalities:

"The invention in claim". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,516,324 issued to Jones et al. ("Jones").

As per claims 1, 28 and 55, Jones teaches a method executed by a programmable apparatus, as claimed receiving with a computer a data retrieval request from a graphical user interface (GUI) on a programmable user display device (thus, in response to requests for access customers, in particular the system comprises a graphical user interface which allows the user to specify all of the report content parameters and display the report on a single screen; which is equivalent to claimed receiving with a computer a data retrieval request from a graphical user interface (GUI) on a programmable user display device)(see col. 3, lines 29-33);

b. in response to the retrieval request, accessing with a computer a plurality of digital databases and retrieving with a computer requested data from such databases (thus, the user interface also permits service messaging, report generation and retrieval, the user interface is preferably configured as a network browser which also facilitates linking the scanner or the central facility control station to a network such as an intranet or internet, the same user interface may be integrated into scanners of different modalities, thereby further facilitating service requests and the like by operations personnel without requiring the personnel to become reacquainted with diverse interfaces in a facility; which is readable as in response to the retrieval request, accessing with a computer a plurality of digital databases and retrieving with a computer requested data from such databases)(see col. 2, lines 37-46). But. Jones does not explicitly indicate assembling with a computer an OLAP cube of the retrieved data, and display the OLAP cube to the user using the GUI. However, Jones implicitly indicates the contents of the table include the following mdxqueryname the name of an mdx procedure used to retrieve report data cube the name of the OLAP cube that the data will be retrieved from, the title of the report that is to be displayed on screens cube the name of the OLAP cube that the data will be retrieved from, (see col. 9, lines 31-34 and 49-52). It would be obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Jones with assembling with a computer an OLAP cube of the retrieved data, and display the OLAP cube to the user using the GUI. This modification would allow the teachings of Jones to provide combining a user interface design with a set of data access mechanisms that result in an intuitive user interface and reporting features that are flexible and fast, (see col. 3, lines 41-45).

As per claims 2, 29 and 56, in addition to the discussion in claim 1, Jones further teaches accessing the database related to the specific data of the user update, and updating that data base with the specific data of the user update (thus, the user interface also permits service messaging, report generation and retrieval, the user interface is preferably configured as a network browser which also facilitates linking the scanner or the central facility control station to a network such as an intranet or internet; which is readable as accessing the database related to the specific data of the user update, and updating that data base with the specific data of the user update)(see col. 2, lines 37-46), and

c. updating the assembled OLAP cube with the specific data update, (see col. 9, lines 32-42).

As per claims 3, 30 and 57, Jones teaches a method as claimed, further comprises removing one database from the plurality of databases (thus, this customer profiling and service contract information can be automatically and periodically extracted from a central service contract database and compared by the operation server 22 to a table of customer profiling and contract information in a local database maintained by the operation server 22; which is readable as removing one database from the plurality of databases)(see col. 5, lines 46-51).

As per claims 4, 31 and 58, Jones teaches a method as claimed, further comprises adding one database to the plurality of databases (thus, after the central facility has collected and processed the log files of operational data from the scanners, scanner utilization reports can be generated; which is readable as adding one database to the plurality of databases)(see cols. 2-3, lines 66-2).

As per claims 5, 32 and 59, Jones teaches a method as claimed, further comprises providing a plurality of access codes, each access code corresponding to a number of databases that may be accessed with the access code (thus, the customer must upload a user id and password or access code; which is equivalent to providing a plurality of access codes, each access code corresponding to a number of databases that may be accessed with the access code)(see col. 6, lines 39-49),

b. assigning each user an access code, (see col. 6, lines 42-44),

c. receiving and responding to a data access request only if the request is from a user with code authorizing access to all the databases with the requested data, (see col. 6, lines 36-40).

As per claims 6, 33 and 60, in addition to the discussion in claim 5, Jones further teaches updating data based on a data update request only if the request is from a user with code authorizing update to all the databases with the requested data,)(see col. 6, lines 39-49).

As per claims 7, 34 and 61, the limitations of claims 7, 34 and 61 are rejected in the analysis of claim 1, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

As per claims 8, 35 and 62, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the plurality of databases are local to the server and directly accessed by the server, (cols. 1-2, lines 64-6).

As per claims 9, 36 and 63, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the plurality of databases are resident remotely from the server and are accessed each through a remote database server with a native information system, (cols. 1-2, lines 64-29).

As per claims 10, 37 and 64, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the databases includes SQL databases, relational databases, object oriented databases, multi-dimensional databases and flat databases (thus, the logic is similar for charts except that the chart drop-down SQL must do an additional table join with the ScanPathCharts database table; which is readable as where the databases includes SQL databases, relational databases, object oriented databases, multi-dimensional databases and flat databases)(see col. 8, lines 53-55).

As per claims 11, 38 and 65, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the plurality of databases are incompatible to each other, (see col. 8, lines 63-67).

As per claims 12, 39 and 66, the limitations of claims 12, 39 and 66 are rejected in the analysis of claim 4, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

As per claims 13, 40 and 67, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the displaying step renders 3-dimensional visualizations of an entity, (see col. 9, lines 63-65).

As per claims 14, 41 and 68, the limitations of claims 14, 41 and 68 are rejected in the analysis of claim 13, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

As per claims 15, 42 and 69, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the databases and 3-dimensional visualizations related to an oil drilling and producing platform, (see col. 9, lines 63-65).

As per claims 16, 43 and 70, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the databases and 3-dimensional visualizations related to a geographic area, (see col. 9, lines 55-65).

As per claims 17, 44 and 71, the limitations of claims 17, 44 and 71 are rejected in the analysis of claim 16, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

As per claims 18, 45 and 72, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the 3-D visualizations provide access to data for a component of the entity by pointing and clicking on the 3-D visualizations of the component, (see col. 9, lines 55-65).

As per claims 19, 46 and 73, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the databases contain data stored using one data format from the group comprising: photographic records, textual data, annotated engineering drawings, graphical plots and audio and videotaped records, (see col. 3, lines 11-20).

As per claims 20, 47 and 74, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the databases are connected using one from the group comprising: OLE-DB technology and a native connection method to the databases, (see col. 2, lines 29-37).

As per claims 21, 48 and 75, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the databases use a network topology that is one from the group comprising: a network topology managed by an operating system, and Internet protocols, (see col. 2, lines 38-42).

As per claims 22, 49 and 76, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the displaying step increases and decreases data detail based on input from a user (thus, the user specifies the desired report content parameters and then clicks a virtual activation button to display the report in the report area of the screen, each of the report content parameter options displays a dynamic list containing the most recent data in the database; which is readable as the displaying step increases and decreases data detail based on input from a user)(see col. 3, lines 42-445).

As per claims 23, 50 and 77, the limitations of claims 23, 50 and 77 are rejected in the analysis of claims 22, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

As per claims 24, 51 and 78, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the displaying step displays components of the entity according to a color-coding scheme, (see col. 6, lines 52-54).

As per claims 25, 52 and 79, the limitations of claims 25, 52 and 79 are rejected in the analysis of claim 24, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

As per claims 26, 53 and 80, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where the retrieved data can be analyzed through tabulated trend analysis and graphical analysis (thus, in response to requests for access from customers, the system comprises a graphical user interface which allows the user to specify all of the report content parameters and display the report on a single screen; which is readable as retrieved data can be analyzed through tabulated trend analysis and graphical analysis)(see col. 3, lines 20-33).

As per claims 27, 54 and 81, Jones teaches a method as claimed, where data about the plurality of digital databases are stored in at least one serialized file (see cols. 2-3, lines 66-2), said method further comprising assembling a new virtual data warehouse based in part on at least one serialized file (thus, the report produced will contain the information currently in the database, which information is update daily; assembling a new virtual data warehouse based in part on at least one serialized file)(see col. 3, lines 37-39).

Contact Information

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication from examiner should be directed to Jean Bolte Fleurantin at (703) 308-6718. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

If any attempt to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mrs. KIM VU can be reached at **(703) 305-8449.** The FAX phone numbers for the Group 2100 Customer Service Center are: ***After Final* (703) 746-7238, *Official* (703) 746-7239**, and ***Non-Official (703) 746-7240***. NOTE: Documents transmitted by facsimile will be entered as official documents on the file wrapper unless clearly marked "***DRAFT***".

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group 2100 Customer Service Center receptionist whose telephone numbers are **(703) 306-5631, (703) 306-5632, (703) 306-5633**.

Jean Bolte Fleurantin

July 26, 2003

JBF/

SHAHID AL ALAM
PATENT EXAMINER